# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

	X	
	:	Chapter 9
In re	:	
	:	Case No. 13-53846
CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN,	:	
	:	Hon. Thomas J. Tucker
Debtor	:	
	X	

# THE CITY OF DETROIT'S EIGHTEENTH OMNIBUS OBJECTION TO CERTAIN CLAIMS

(Satisfied Claims)

THIS OBJECTION SEEKS TO DISALLOW AND EXPUNGE CERTAIN FILED PROOFS OF CLAIM. CLAIMANTS RECEIVING THIS OBJECTION SHOULD CAREFULLY REVIEW THIS OBJECTION AND LOCATE THEIR NAMES AND CLAIMS ON THE EXHIBIT ATTACHED TO THIS OBJECTION.

The City of Detroit (the "<u>City</u>"), by and through its undersigned counsel, for its objection to claims (the "<u>Objection</u>") and its request for an order disallowing and expunging certain satisfied claims, substantially in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u>, respectfully states as follows:

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this Objection pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

### **BACKGROUND FACTS**

2. On July 18, 2013 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the City filed a petition for relief in this Court, thereby commencing the largest Chapter 9 bankruptcy case in history.

- 3. Information regarding the City's economic challenges and the events leading up to the filing of this case can be found in the *Declaration of Kevyn D. Orr in Support of City of Detroit, Michigan's Statement of Qualifications Pursuant to Section 109(c) of the Bankruptcy Code* filed on July 18, 2013 (Dkt. No. 11).
- 4. On December 5, 2013, this Court held that the City was eligible for relief under Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code. *See Order for Relief Under Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code* (Dkt. No. 1946).
- 5. On November 12, 2014, this Court entered an Order Confirming the Eighth Amended Plan for the Adjustment of Debts of the City of Detroit (Dkt. 8272) (the "Plan").
  - 6. The Plan became effective on December 10, 2014 (the "Effective Date").
- 7. On November 21, 2013, this Court issued its *Order, Pursuant to Sections 105*, 501, and 503 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules 2002 and 3003(c), Establishing Bar Dates for Filing Proofs of Claim and Approving Form and Manner of Notice Thereof (Dkt. No. 1782) (the "Bar Date Order") establishing deadlines to file certain proofs of claim in this case. The Bar Date Order set the deadline to file proofs of claim as February 21, 2014 at 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time (the "Bar Date").
- 8. On December 24, 2013, this court issued its *Order, Pursuant to Sections 105 and 502 of the Bankruptcy Code, Approving Alternative Dispute Resolution Procedures to Promote the Liquidation of Certain Prepetition Claims* [Dkt. No. 2302] (the "ADR Order"), allowing the City to resolve certain pre-petition claims.
- 9. Throughout the course of the case, the City has been paying a number of parties in pursuant to the ADR Order, including the Claims objected to herein. Each of these claimants signed a settlement agreement with the City Law Department related to a litigation claim. These

parties had also filed proofs of claim on or before the Bar Date, and such claims have now been satisfied by the City through the payments detailed in each settlement agreement.<sup>1</sup>

## **RELIEF REQUESTED**

10. The City files this Objection pursuant to Section 502(b) of the Bankruptcy Code<sup>2</sup>, and Rule 3007(d)(5) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), seeking entry of an order disallowing and expunging the claims set forth in Exhibit 2 annexed hereto (the "Satisfied Claims") because they have been satisfied by the City through settlement agreements with the Law Department.

#### BASIS FOR RELIEF REQUESTED

- 11. The City has reviewed the Satisfied Claims and submits that each Satisfied Claim is no longer valid because it has been paid pursuant to an agreed-upon settlement.
- 12. James D. Noseda, Supervising Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City Law Department, submits a Declaration in support of this Objection, attached as <a href="Exhibit 3">Exhibit 3</a>.
- 13. Bankruptcy Rule 3007(d)(5) expressly allows the City to object to multiple claims in an omnibus objection if the objections are based on the grounds that the claims "have been satisfied or released during the case in accordance with the Code, applicable rules or a court order[.]" Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007(d)(5).
- 14. This Court has the authority to enter an order approving this Objection. Moreover, the streamlined process afforded by an omnibus objection (in lieu of individual objections to each Satisfied Claim), as well as the elimination of these Satisfied Claims, will result in material costs savings that will inure to the benefit of the estate. Accordingly, the City

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For confidentiality purposes, the City is not filing the settlement agreements or including the amount of such settlement payments in this Objection. However, the City will make such materials available to the Court if requested.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Section 502 is made applicable to Chapter 9 proceedings through Section 901(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

believes that the relief sought by this Objection is in the best interests of the City and its creditors. Based upon the foregoing, the City seeks entry of an order, substantially in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit 1, disallowing claims which have been satisfied by the City.

## SEPARATE CONTESTED MATTERS

15. To the extent that a response is filed regarding any claim listed in this Objection and the City is unable to resolve the response, each one of such claims, and the objection by the City to each one of such claims asserted, shall constitute a separate contested matter as contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 9014. Any order entered by the Court regarding an objection asserted in this Objection shall be deemed a separate order with respect to each claim.

## **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

16. The City files this Objection without prejudice to or waiver of its rights pursuant to section 904 of the Bankruptcy Code, and nothing herein is intended to, shall constitute or shall be deemed to constitute the City's consent, pursuant to section 904 of the Bankruptcy Code, to this Court's interference with (a) any of the political or governmental powers of the City, (b) any of the property or revenues of the City or (c) the City's use or enjoyment of any income-producing property.

## **NOTICE**

17. The City has provided notice of this Objection to each of the claimants identified in Exhibit 2 at each address set forth in Exhibit 2, and all other parties who have requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. Each address reflects the address set forth by each of the claimants on its respective proof of claim. Given the nature of the relief requested, the City respectfully submits that no other or further notice of this Objection need be given.

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## **NO PRIOR REQUEST**

18. No previous request for the relief requested herein has been made to this or any other court.

WHEREFORE, the City respectfully requests that this Court enter an order, substantially in the form annexed hereto as Exhibit 1, granting the relief requested herein and granting the City such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: July 23, 2015

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

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